

## Virginia Green Attractions







## Norfolk Botanical Garden

Norfolk, Virginia

**Virginia Green** is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices is all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Attractions** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established "core activities" for **Green Attractions** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests. Below is a list of this attraction's "green" activities that guests can expect.

## Norfolk Botanical Garden

**Green Statement:** "The mission of Norfolk Botanical Garden is to enrich life by promoting the enjoyment of plants and the environment through beautiful gardens and educational programs. Our green actions are a natural extension of this mission."



## **CORE ACTIVITIES for Virginia Green Attractions**

- Recycling and Waste Reduction. Virginia Green facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:
  - Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
  - Clearly marked recycling bins for glass, steel and aluminum
  - Track overall waste bills
  - Compost food waste and other compostables
  - Use reusable dishware and glassware and minimize use of disposables
  - Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
  - Use high-efficiency hand-dryers
  - Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
  - Use electronic correspondence and forms
  - Use "green" cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
  - Use latex paints
  - Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
  - Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides
  - Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
  - Use integrated pest management (IPM)
  - Compost non-infected green waste from the landscape
- Styrofoam/Disposables Minimization. Participants are encouraged to minimize use of all disposables and eliminate the use of Styrofoam products for take-out and left-overs. This facility pledges that they:
  - Use disposable containers made from recycled content paper and that are recyclable

- Water Conservation. The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:
  - Track overall water usage and wastewater
  - Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
  - Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
  - Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first)
  - Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, and minimizes lawn areas
  - Have an effective stormwater management plan including: pervious pavement
  - Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds



- Energy Conservation. The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:
  - Track overall energy bills
  - Use compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
  - Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
  - Have individual thermostats for each room/area
  - Use natural lighting
  - Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
  - Use directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
  - Use a bio-diesel tram for tours
- Green Events Package. The facility must offer a "green" or "environmentally-friendly" package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:
  - Promote the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages
  - Recycling available for guests and meeting participants, bulk dispensers in toiletries

For more information on **Norfolk Botanical Garden**, see <a href="www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org">www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org</a> or contact **Perry Mathewes at perry.mathewes@nbgs.org** or **757-441-5830**.

For more information on *Virginia Green* program, see <a href="www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen">www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen</a> or <a href="www.virginiagreentravel.org">www.virginiagreentravel.org</a>.



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.





